HANDOUT

Addendum to Overview of the Draft Conservation Strategy for the Bay Delta Conservation Plan

At its December 19, 2008 meeting, the BDCP Steering Committee was unable to reach agreement on the Overview description of the Assumptions and Biological Rationale, and Issues and Concerns, regarding core element number 10, Delta Outflow Targets. It was decided that Steering Committee members would continue to refine language for subsequent adoption as an addendum to the Overview. The BDCP Integration Team recommends that the Steering Committee approve the language below as an addendum describing the next steps that will be taken to address uncertainties and disagreements regarding Delta Outflow Targets, and to develop a range of targets for evaluation. This description is intended to replace the Next Steps language on pg. 46 of the Overview (it was agreed that development of language on "Assumptions and Biological Rationale" and "Issues and Concerns," is not necessary at this time).

Next Steps for Addressing Delta Outflow Issues

Steps	Task	Next Steps	Due date/ status
1	• Agree on a list and description of the full range of competing hypotheses regarding relationships and possible mechanisms between outflow and species abundance.	Updated draft from HOTT Discuss at IT	Draft done Feb. 10
	• Compile information and summarize lessons learned from the existing scientific literature and analyses performed to date and determine if additional statistical or modeling analyses are needed.	Summarize lessons Consider additional analytical needs	April After DRERIP (March)?
	• Identify a process, including science input, for evaluating and efficiently testing these hypotheses to aid in development of the Plan, and its implementation in interim, near term, and long-term. Critically compare existing correlations and data to identify strengths and weaknesses of competing hypotheses for each relevant covered species.	IT and Science Liaisons to develop after summary is done and/or DRERIP	June
2	• Based on the information developed in step 1, modify existing scenarios or develop additional scenarios, carefully document what critical data gaps the additional analysis and modeling are intended to fill and carefully craft a minimum number of scenarios (no more than 2 to 5) that provide the missing information.	Review previous scenarios and identify any additional needed	March
	• Both CAL Lite and CALSIM models may be used. CALSIM modeling may focus on refining and balancing CALSIM allocation rules to define realistic operational rules for each scenario that attempt to balance outflow targets, exports, upstream deliveries, instream tributary conditions, and reservoir storage.	Discuss model limitations that hindered evaluation of scenarios previously gamed and strategies for overcoming Refine model Game the existing/revised scenarios w/model	March
3	• Consider how near-term and long-term BDCP flow and non-flow actions, as well as future changes associated with climate change and levee failure, might change the existing correlations and hypothesized underlying mechanisms between outflow (X2) and abundance of covered species and identify implications for determination of near and long-term outflow objectives.	Consideration of BDCP actions Consideration of climate change and levee failure	Done April
4	• Develop a set of specific outflow-related conservation measures designed to achieve measurable biological objectives, backstopped by upper and lower boundaries	Initial targets	February 28

Steps	Task	Next Steps	Due date/ status
	for modifying flows linked to decision criteria, that together are flexible and robust enough, to adapt to new information and changing circumstances through the adaptive management process included in the Plan.	Final targets	April
5	• Seek independent scientific advice as necessary to help understand the existing literature and data; competing hypotheses; underlying mechanisms; and ecological effects of different scenarios, and to evaluate the resulting proposed flow-related conservation measures using the DRERIP models and other tools.	See No. 1	